

# Working with Words for Big Blocks

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Presented by : Amanda Arens  
amanda@arensconsulting.com      www.arenconsulting.com

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## Big Words

Parasitoids are organisms that are parasitic for only one part of their life cycle. Often, parasitoids begin their lives as larvae on or in a host, living on the nutrients from the host. When the parasitoids mature, they leave their host and lead a nonparasitic life.

Pearson Learning, Parasitic Life  
By Sam Brelsfoard

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## Big Words

Interleague play enters its final weekend of the season, and it can't come fast enough for National League pitchers.

They have been outpitched (4.99 ERA to 4.01 ERA through Wednesday), outdone on the scoreboard (75-127 record) and even outhit by the junior circuit.

USA Today, June 30, 2006  
by Peter Barzilai

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## Working with Words

- Goal 1: to learn key words which contain the prefixes, suffixes and spelling changes necessary for decoding and spelling polysyllabic words
- Goal 2: to learn to spell common words which students may be spelling in the logical—but incorrect way
- Goal 3: To learn to develop a visual checking sense while spelling
- Goal 4: To learn to cross check meaning with word pattern knowledge

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## Working with Words

page 155

- 60 minutes a week
- Three twenty minute lessons
- Introduction of Nifty Thrifty Fifty words takes place in the first week of the month
- Introduction of the 8-10 Word Wall Words takes place in the third week of the month
- Use spare minutes here and there to practice the month's words

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## Month at a Glance

	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Lesson 3
Week 1	Introduce the month's Nifty Thrifty Fifty words	Nifty Thrifty fifty Cards	Word Sort
Week 2	Mini-WORDO with NTF words	Guess the Covered Word	Scavenger Hunt
Week 3	Introduce the month's Word Wall words (chosen from drafts)	Making Words	Word Detectives
Week 4	Review all words on the wall (Riddles or Be A Mind Reader)	Guess the Covered Word	Root Word Lesson

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## Nifty Thrifty Fifty

page 195

- Month by Month Phonics for Upper Grades (Cunningham and Hall, 1998) is the best resource for the monthly introduction of these words
- New month by month books are being written
- To introduce, talk about the words, explain morphemes, have students chant the spelling and print one time

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## Nifty Thrifty Fifty

page 163

- Review activities:
  - Riddles
  - Be a Mind Reader
  - Mini-WORDO
- Extending Nifty Thrifty Fifty
  - Scavenger Hunts
  - Nifty Thrifty Fifty Cards
  - Word Sorts

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## August/September Examples

- Words to be added:  
composer discovery encouragement hopeless  
impossible musician richest unfriendly
- Riddles:
  1. Write the word that is the opposite of friendly
  2. Write the word with cover as a root word
  3. Write what you are if you have the most money

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## August/September Examples

- Words to be added:

composer    discovery    encouragement    hopeless  
impossible    musician    richest    unfriendly

- Be a Mind Reader

1. It is one of the Nifty Thrifty Fifty Words
2. It has three syllables
3. It has a suffix
4. It has three vowels
5. It means someone who writes music

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## Mini-WORDO

- Students take a Mini-WORDO card and fill in the nine Nifty Thrifty Fifty Words you have chosen
- Students determine the arrangement for their own words
- Using a marker of some kind, students cover a word that has any common part of the word called out by the teacher
- The words called out will not be NTF words, but words that are made up of the different morphemes and root words studied with the NTF.

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## Mini-WORDO

expensive	governor	impression
discovery	independence	encouragement
transportation	unfinished	submarine

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## Nifty Thrifty Fifty Cards

### Twenty Minute Lesson

1. Write the individual chunks of index cards
2. Give students two new words to make by combining parts
3. Ask students to make one word of their own
4. Give students one neologism to make.
5. Ask students to make one word of their own

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## Nifty Thrifty Fifty Cards

un

friend

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hope

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dis

cover

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## Nifty Thrifty Fifty Cards

swim

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## Nifty Thrifty Fifty Cards

un	cover
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hope	less	ly
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## Nifty Thrifty Fifty Cards

- Neologisms –
  - A newly coined phrase or word

- Colorize

Technology has its own set of neologisms

- Texted, blog, wireless

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## Neologisms

- Words to be added:

composer    discovery    encouragement    hopeless  
impossible    musician    richest    unfriendly

- Neologism to make:

– This word means to make someone your friend

en	friend	ment
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– What neologism could you make?

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un	finish	ed
trans	port	ation
sub	marine	
com	pose	er
en	courage	ment
	hope	less
dis	cover	y
un	friend	ly
	rich	est
	music	ian
im	possible	
ex	expense	ive
	govern	or
im	press	sion
in	depend	ence

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## Nifty Thrifty Fifty Cards

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## Nifty Thrifty Fifty Cards Homework

- Send home a chart with the morphemes studied so far.
- Students make two more words from the parts.
- Students make one more neologism with accompanying definition or defining sentence.

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## Word Sorts

page 168

- Make connections to the words students will encounter in their independent reading, content area reading, and writing
- Move beyond the memorization of the fifty words
- Focus on the role of morphemes to help decode, spell, and determine meanings of other words with similar parts

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## Word Sorts

### Twenty Minute Lesson

- Show/provide chart with columns and labels
- Explain sample words – one should be a NTF word
- Show words to students one at a time
- Have students write each one in the chart and tell why it belongs in a certain column
- Transfer- talk about why it could help when reading/writing

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## Word Sort

Un – prefix Opposite of; not	spelling/pronunciation only	Part of word
unfriendly	uncle	unicorn
unbutton	unit until	unique
unbelievable	unbutton unbelievable understand	unit
uncertain	unless until unique	universe
unfamiliar		united
unhealthy		

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Prefix sub=under      part of word spell/pronounce      part of word      Title Caroz

sub <u>er</u>	sub <u>oi</u> s	sub <u>le</u>
sub <u>ti</u> tle	sub <u>li</u> me	sub <u>tl</u> ety
sub <u>bu</u> y	sub <u>st</u> itute	
sub <u>con</u> tract		
sub <u>gl</u> acial		

If when I'm reading a book and I come to a word that starts with sub, I will try to take off the sub and see if the word is a word I know.

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### Suffix sort: er

Page 171

(Suffix)	(suffix)	(suffix)	Word part
<u>People who do</u>	<u>Things that do</u>	<u>More</u>	
<b>composer</b>	<b>computer</b>	<b>fatter</b>	<b>master</b>
<b>teacher</b>	<b>pointer</b>	<b>greater</b>	<b>cover</b>
photographer	copier	skinnier	never
runner	heater		
	photographer	copier	
	never		
	skinnier		

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### Suffix sort: er

Page 171

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<b>composer</b>	<b>computer</b>	<b>fatter</b>	<b>master</b>
<b>teacher</b>	<b>pointer</b>	<b>greater</b>	<b>cover</b>
manager	heater	skinnier	never
fighter	typewriter	richer	diaper
winner	dishwasher	heavier	after
photographer	copier		under
runner	air conditioner		winter

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## Scavenger Hunts

page 176

- Creates an awareness of other words with common prefixes/suffixes/root words and spelling changes within the NTF words
- Assists students in connecting their own reading to the Word Work being done

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## August/September Example

- Scavenger Hunt-
  - After you introduce the word composer, you may choose to have students look for other words that end with –er
  - Students look for examples as they read during SSR, Guided Reading, Social Studies, Science, or at home
  - They record the **word** on the chart in the classroom

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## August/September Example

### Words than end with –er

winner MKA

grader ABA

other KBL

writer JMA

player DPH

locker PMC

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## Scavenger Hunt Process Twenty Minute Lesson

- Use two different colored markers to identify the root and affix of each word
- Write any spelling changes above the word
- Cross out any words the students agree is NOT an example of the prefix, suffix or spelling change
- Assign a student or two to look up any words they are not sure about

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## August/September Example

Words that end with -er

Double the n  
winner MKA

Drop the e  
grader MKA

~~other~~ MKA

Drop the e  
writer MKA

player MKA

locker MKA

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## Scavenger Hunt Homework

- Have students look for 10 words that contain the identified affix or spelling change
- Place a ✓ by words they are sure are an example of the affix or spelling change
- Cross out the words they are sure are NOT an example
- Look up any words they are not sure about
- Turn in a paper with every word either checked or crossed out

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## Scavenger Hunt Homework

Words that end with -er

✓ winner

✓ grader

~~other~~

✓ writer

✓ player

✓ locker

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## Making Words

page 166

- Hands-on manipulative activity
- Lessons highlight patterns and how changing one letter changes the whole word
- Lessons will often sort to focus on morpheme connections
- Lessons should use a secret word connected to the content areas or to one of the morphemes introduced in a NTF word

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## Making Words Homework

- Students take home the letters for the secret word and
  1. Make as many of the words as they remember from the lesson
  2. Make as many new words as they can

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## Word Detectives

page 175

- Word Detectives encourages students to answer the questions:
  - “Do I know any other words that look and sound like this word?”
  - “Are any of these look-alike/sound-alike words related to each other?”

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## Word Detectives

- The answer to the first question should help students with pronouncing and spelling the word.
- The answer to the second question should help students discover what, if any, meaning relationships exist between this new word and others in their meaning vocabulary

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## Word Detectives

Desegregation

Students think of:

dessert	irrigation	multiplication
segregation	deserve	migration
aggravation	preparation	design
segregate	defrost	destroy
decompose	notation	destination
decline		

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## Word Detectives

### Desegregation

<u>d</u> essert	irrigat <u>i</u> on	multipl <u>ic</u> ation
segr <u>e</u> gation	migrat <u>i</u> on	des <u>e</u> rve
aggr <u>a</u> vation	<u>d</u> esign	preparat <u>i</u> on
segr <u>e</u> gate	<u>d</u> estroy	defr <u>o</u> st
de <u>c</u> ompose	destinat <u>i</u> on	notat <u>i</u> on
de <u>c</u> line		

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## Word Detectives Homework

- Send home the words from the lesson. Ask students to put the words into categories and label them.

OR

- Send home the words from the lesson. Ask students to write the root word of any applicable words.

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## Student Writing

On my christmas break my uncle in florida came to vist us for chrismas because he has know body to share with him

. . . came around so he staded for christmas with us and he whent back to florida today. Me and my brother and sister where very sad when he left . . .

5<sup>th</sup> grade sample

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## Words for the Word Wall

page 157

- Use your students' first draft writing to decide what words make the most sense for your Word Wall
- 300 words provided on pages 192 – 195 to compare to your student writing
- Choose 90 – 100 for your Wall
- Combined with the NTF, you will have 140 – 150 words TOTAL

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## Word Wall

page 159

- Introduce each word giving explanation for its placement on the word wall

Example: said

\*This is not a hard word, but many people misspell it because it does not look like it sounds. Long ago, it was pronounced to rhyme with raid and braid. But the pronunciation has changed. You'll just have to remember what it looks like.

- Students chant the words in a rhythmic manner
- Students print the word one time with careful attention to its spelling
- Students repeat the process with each of the four or five words
- Students check the words
- When time, review words already on the wall

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## Word Wall Review Activities

page 160

- Review Activities
  - Riddles
  - Be a Mind Reader

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## Guess the Covered Word

page 181

- Encourages students to use a combination of structure cues, semantic cues, and visual cues
- Direct connection to reading
- May be used to preview a text, review vocabulary or concepts, or focus on one part of speech

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## Guess the Covered Word

Soon Harriet made a speech before an antislavery group. In her husky voice, she told of the trips she had made into the South. She described the slaves who she had chosen to come north with her. Her audience listened as she told how they traveled on foot, hiding in barns and haystacks during the day. Harriet also explained how stationmasters had offered her and her runaways food and shelter. She told of their great joy in reaching Canada.

In Their Own Words Harriet Tubman; George Sullivan, Scholastic, 2001

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## Guess the Covered Word

- Cover the same part of speech in each sentence
- Use as a way to introduce vocabulary at the beginning of units of study
- Use as a way to review vocabulary at the end of units of study

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## What Looks Right

page 179

- Focuses on patterns that spell the same sound
  - ail and ale or ite and ight
- Helps students use two important monitoring strategies –
  - Does it look like a word I've seen?
  - Can I find it in the dictionary to check?

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## What Looks Right

- Teacher's list
- Student's Paper

<u>coat</u>	<u>note</u>	<u>coat</u>	<u>note</u>
devoat	devote		
promoat	promote		
rewroat	rewrote		
keynoat	keynote		
misquoat	misquote		
anecdoat	anecdote		
petticoat	petticote		

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## What Looks Right

- To share the What Looks Right Lesson with 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade:
  - Fourth grade does first lesson each month, and fifth grade does second (beginning in Nov.)
- Page 189 in Working with Words Supplement
  - Supply of extra polysyllabic words for extending the What Looks Right Lessons in the Month by Month book

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## Checklists for Implementing

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